

Dr. Matt Julius received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 2000. While at Michigan he was mentored by Dr. E.F. Stoermer. After leaving Michigan in 2000 he accepted a professorship at St. Cloud State University in central Minnesota, U.S.A. He was promoted to associate professor in 2005 and full professor in 2008. His primary research interests involve the systematics and evolution of thalassiosiroid diatoms, with focus on cladistic analysis utilizing morphology of fossil and extant species. While these studies continue to be his focus of choice, he maintains an active research presence in aquatic toxicology and functional morphological analysis. To date he has author or co-authored 20+ peer-reviewed publications with manuscripts appearing in many phycozoology focused publications along with non-algae based journals including *Aquatic Toxicology* and the *Journal of Zoology*. He is also an associate editor for *Phycological Research* and has been asked to serve as an associate editor for *Diatom Monographs*. Julius is keenly interested in applying his work with cladistics, evolution, and diatoms to those interested within and outside of the diatom community. He has developed cladistic exercises for the undergraduate classroom and has happily participated with colleagues on the SimRiver diatom project (<http://www.u-gakugei.ac.jp/~diatom/en/index.html>). Currently he is one of the investigators on a molecular based phylogenetic reconstruction project dealing with the Heterokont algae funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation. His long-term research goals are largely focused on utilizing morphological and molecular based evolutionary trees for development of species level taxonomic revisions useful for identification of diatoms for applied application. With this goal in mind, he would like to help facilitate contribution by IDS member to large efforts attempting to organize species names and images like the Encyclopedia of Life project (www.eol.org).